

HOW TO FIX NIGERIA



On 29/5/15, a president elected on an anti-corruption platform will take the keys to Aso Rock. For General Buhari to defeat a sitting president means that millions of people across the land are also ready to fix Nigeria.

But things have been upside down for too long. Governments have claimed to fight corruption since independence, yet things have only gone from bad to worse.

Corruption means that government contracts are awarded to companies based on deals with corrupt officials and politicians, instead of what Nigerians need. This means that

- the contracts cost us more,
- the winning contractors are not the best,
- their roads, bridges and schools are poor quality,

- thousands of projects are abandoned
- the wrong people (looking for kickbacks) are attracted into politics and civil service
- the right people (who want to serve) avoid politics, and where they don't, they are compromised by the deals they have to make to get into power.

Yet, General Buhari has ruled this country before. Our challenge is to fix Nigeria in such a way that subsequent governments cannot roll back anti-corruption the way his *War Against Indiscipline* was rolled back.

GOOD SYSTEMS, NOT JUST GOOD PEOPLE

Our challenge is to take this opportunity to create an anti-corruption *system*, which will be effective from federal to local government, whether the office holder is corrupt or otherwise, and which continues to be effective, even after the inauguration of a corrupt government.

Because, without a good system, whatever a good president achieves in 8 years can be destroyed by a bad president in 8 weeks.

THE BRIBECODE SOLUTION

The BribeCode is another name for a proposed new law called The Corporate Corruption Act. What that law tries to do is to fix a major loophole in Nigeria's legal system.

Today, a man who kills his neighbour for his

property may face the death penalty. But, if he registers a company which kills a thousand people for their property, the convicted company will simply write a cheque and continue business as usual. That is Nigerian law.

Corporate Corruption kills Nigerians every single day.

In 2013 for instance, corruption in the Ministry of Health contributed to the death of 560 mothers in every 100,000 births, compared with, say 170 per 100,000 in Botswana. Also, corruption in the Ministry of Works keeps our roads bad and contributes to the 162 road deaths per 100,000, which is the second highest death rate in all 193 countries of the world.

The BribeCode will punish serious corruption involving bribes of N1million or more with liquidation. - The 'death penalty' for seriously corrupt companies. (#BribeandDie)

Our solution targets the source of the problem: the contract between government and the company. When the BribeCode comes into force, a company convicted of serious corruption faces the penalty of liquidation, with no fine option, with 1% of its assets going to reward the whistleblower/s who supplied information leading to the conviction.

This will help to end Grand Corruption by making the penalty unacceptable to directors and shareholders, and creating a private sector with zero tolerance for public sector corruption. Within one budget year, we can expect to see real 'transformation' in society.

Together, we can make this Happen! The 8th National Assembly has been elected. We must tell our lawmakers that our priority as citizens for this National Assembly is the BribeCode, not another law to increase legislators' salaries.

HOW WILL THE BRIBECODE BE ENFORCED? OTHER LAWS ARE NOT.

The BribeCode is different from Nigeria's other anti-corruption laws. A corrupt IGP or Executive Chairman can neutralise the Police Force or the EFCC, but the BribeCode is a *system*, not an agency that can be controlled merely by hiring a loyalist. Even a president cannot protect a corrupt company, because under the BribeCode, any of 37 attorneys general from the federal or state governments can independently bring an action to liquidate a company guilty of serious corruption.

Fines are a business expense and no matter how high a fine, Nigeria is so profitable that the 'risk' is worth taking, especially when policemen, prosecutors and even judges can be bribed. Liquidation is another matter entirely. Even a 1% risk of liquidation forces financially prudent companies to clean up their act. This means that the law is SELF-ENFORCING. It does not depend on compromised police, prosecutors or judiciary to enforce it by going to court. Even if a corrupt party is in power in 36 states and the centre, companies have to think about the liquidation actions that will

come after the party leaves office.

WON'T THIS DRIVE MANY COMPANIES OUT OF NIGERIA?

Hopefully.

Some companies can only thrive in a corrupt country. They sell obsolete technology and useless products and services that can only be bought by a government whose officials are blinded by kickbacks. Such companies are responsible for many of the Federal Government's 20,000 abandoned contracts nationwide. Hopefully such companies will simply leave Nigeria, while ethical ones take over.

WILL OUR LAWMAKERS EVER PASS THIS LAW?

Lawmakers who join the 8th National Assembly for the sake of kickbacks like the US\$3 million allegedly paid to Farouk Lawan by Femi Otedola's Zenon Petroleum & Gas Ltd will certainly not support the BribeCode. It will put them out of business.

But it is not up to them.

It is up to YOU. As a voter, S.69 of the Nigerian Constitution gives you the power to remove anti-people representatives who act against your interests. When you SIGN UP to support the BribeCode, you can also give us the right to start Recall Proceedings on your representatives if they oppose the Bill. With the Grand Recall, the citizens can use their constitutional

right to recall lawmakers trying to preserve their access to 'Ghana must Go' bags from corporate lobbyists.

There are honest and dedicated lawmakers, including some who may oppose the BribeCode in principle. But, if you the citizen speak loudly enough, they will all listen, and the 8th National Assembly WILL pass the BribeCode into Law, and...

FIX NIGERIA!



NEED MORE INFORMATION?

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WHAT CAN YOU DO NOW?

- Support the BribeCode by signing up at www.bribeCode.org/signup. (If you hold a voters card, be sure to tick 'Yes' and enter your Local Government Area.)
- Alternatively, TEXT "I Support BribeCode" with your name and address to +234 0817 8200 382
- Spread the word among your family, friends and social media. Give them copies of this leaflet and make sure they sign up.